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May 6, 1993

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU COMMENCEMENT MAY 15

CHARLESTON, IL- More than 1,200 graduates will participate in Eastern Illinois University's spring commencement ceremonies at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, May 15, in the Union/Library Quadrangle (in case of rain, in Lantz Gymnasium).

Outdoor seating is somewhat limited, but guests may bring lawn chairs. Due to limited seating in the gymnasium, family members and guests of the graduates must have tickets to be admitted if the ceremony is held indoors. However, tickets will not be automatically dispensed; they must be requested by each marching graduate. For more information about tickets, call Eastern's Commencement Office at 581-6892.

During the afternoon ceremony, Josephine Oblinger of

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Williamsville will be awarded an honorary Doctor of Public Service degree. Oblinger, a former state representative, is responsible for several pieces of legislation that continue to have a positive impact on the older citizens of Illinois.

A former high school teacher, Oblinger has served in various roles in Illinois governmental affairs, most recently as director of Senior Involvement for the Illinois Department on Aging. She served as state representative, 50th District (1979-1982) and 100th District (1983-1985).

She received a Bachelor of Science in Education degree from the University of Illinois and Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Detroit Law School, where she was the only woman enrolled at the time. She is also the recipient of several honorary degrees and national and state service awards.

Special recognition will also be given to faculty marshals Al Moldroski and Joyce Crouse. Moldroski, a member of Eastern's art faculty since 1963, will represent the College of Fine Arts in the morning ceremony. Crouse, a member of Eastern's home economics faculty since 1968, will represent the College of Applied Sciences, in the afternoon ceremony.

Commencement speakers at both ceremonies will include Eastern President David Jorns, who will give the charge to the graduates and award diplomas; Student Body President Brian Riordan of Chicago, a senior political science major; and

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Alumni Association President Lyndon Wharton of Springfield, a 1957 Eastern graduate. Representing the Board of Governors Universities trustees in the morning ceremony will be William E. Hoffee of Fairfield and in the afternoon Dr. Mack Hollowell of Charleston.

The Reverend Anne M. Jones of the Neoga Presbyterian Church will give the invocation and benediction. Jason Morris of Metamora will lead the audience in the singing of the National Anthem and Alma Mater. Music during the ceremonies will be provided by Eastern's Wind Ensemble, directed by Bruce Moss. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Barbara Hill will present the degree candidates.

The marching order of colleges/schools in the morning ceremony will be the Graduate School; College of Health, Physical Education and Recreation; Lumpkin College of Business; College of Education; and College of Fine Arts. In the afternoon, it will be the School of Adult and Continuing Education (Board of Governors Bachelor of Arts degree); College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and College of Applied Sciences.